

July 9, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AMENDMENT TO A CONTRACT FROM  
THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
(ALL DISTRICTS) (4-VOTES)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve and instruct the Chairman to sign the attached contract amendment (Attachment I, two copies, original signatures are required on both) with the California Department of Education/Child Development Division (CDE/CDD), adding an additional \$4,958,082 and extending the contract through June 30, 2003, in support of the Child Care Planning Committee's Investing in Early Educators Program for retaining and training qualified staff in CDE/CDD-funded child development centers.
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare and execute program amendments as may be deemed necessary and/or to extend the term of the contract for up to one additional year.
3. Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment to the Chief Administrative Office Budget for Fiscal Year 2002-03 (Attachment II).

**PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On August 28, 2001, your Board approved a contract for \$5,009,450 with CDE/CDD to implement the Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee's Investing in Early Educators Program for the period of July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. The attached amendment extends the contract period to June 30, 2003, and provides an additional \$4,958,082, increasing the total contract amount to \$9,967,532.

The Investing in Early Educators Program supports the County strategic goals related to service excellence, organizational effectiveness, and child and family well-being. The stipend component is designed to improve the quality of child care services by reducing the turnover of child care workers and promoting continuing education. The management-training component of the program will augment the skills of site supervisors and program directors in the areas of supervision, personnel policies and procedures, budget development, strategic planning, and contract compliance.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

Formal approval of this contract amendment by your Board is required to receive the additional funds and to extend the contract term to June 30, 2003.

The stipend component of the Investing in Early Educators Program will provide persons working directly with children in CDE/CDD-funded child development centers, with a cash incentive to remain employed within the subsidized child development sector, and to further their education.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of the attached amendment and Appropriation Adjustment of \$4,958,082 will allow for the inclusion of the additional funds in the Chief Administrative Office Budget for Fiscal Year 2002-03. The original contract amount of \$5,009,450 is included in the Chief Administrative Office Budget for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS**

AB 212 was introduced in 1999 by Assembly Member Dion Aroner to improve the quality of child care by addressing the low salaries and high turnover rates in child development programs. Funding was initiated in Fiscal Year 2000-01 and additional funds have just been released to continue the Child Care Retention Program for a second year. Los Angeles County is receiving \$4,958,082 in additional funds, which represents approximately one-third of the total Statewide allocation.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

During its first year of operation, the Office of Child Care received over 1,700 stipend applications for the Investing in Early Educators Program. It is estimated that 85 percent of the applicants will complete the education requirement and receive the stipend.

Additional applications for the stipend program will be accepted through October 2002, upon approval of this contract amendment. The Child Care Planning Committee estimates that by June 2003, 5,000 persons working directly with children in CDE-funded child development centers will have participated in the Investing in Early Educators Program, and as a result, increased their education and received cash stipends.

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Administrators in CDE/CDD- funded child development programs are eligible to participate in the management-training component of the Investing in Early Educators Program. The Anderson School at the University of California Los Angeles is conducting this training under a contract that was approved by your Board on April 2, 2002. Currently, 50 individuals are participating in the training and a second session is planned for Fall 2002.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Investing in Early Educators Program represents a significant step toward improving the quality of child care in Los Angeles County.

Two signed copies (original signatures are required) of the contract amendment and resolution should be returned to:

§ Chief Administrative Office, Service Integration Branch, Office of Child Care, 222 South Hill Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California, 90012. Copies will be forwarded to the California Department of Education, as required.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

BONNIE L. BAILER  
Chair, Child Care Planning Committee

DEJ:BLB  
ASD:KMS:LE

Attachments (2)

c: Auditor-Controller